

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 6860

Petitions of Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc.)
(VELCO) and Green Mountain Power Corporation)
(GMP) for a certificate of public good, pursuant to)
30 V.S.A. Section 248, authorizing VELCO to)
construct the so-called Northwest Vermont)
Reliability Project, said project to include: (1))
upgrades at 12 existing VELCO and GMP)
substations located in Charlotte, Essex, Hartford,)
New Haven, North Ferrisburgh, Poultney, Shelburne,)
South Burlington, Vergennes, West Rutland,)
Williamstown, and Williston, Vermont; (2) the)
construction of a new 345 kV transmission line from)
West Rutland to New Haven; (3) the reconstruction)
of a portion of a 34.5 kV and 46 kV transmission line)
from New Haven to South Burlington; and (4) the)
reconductoring of a 115 kV transmission line from)
Williamstown to Barre, Vermont –)

Order entered: 1/10/2008

ORDER RE VERGENNES LINE DESIGN

On December 12, 2007, Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. ("VELCO"), pursuant to a requirement from the Public Service Board ("Board"), filed additional information regarding the cost estimate for placing the distribution line underground at the Route 22A crossing in Vergennes and the amount of pole height reduction that could be achieved if the distribution line were placed underground.

On December 31, 2007, Addison County Regional Planning Commission and the City of Vergennes filed a letter requesting that the Board order VELCO to place the distribution line at Route 22A underground and redesign the 115 kV line to reduce pole heights in this area.

On January 7, 2008, the Department of Public Service filed a letter stating that the additional cost of placing the distribution line underground at the Route 22A crossing is not warranted given the small aesthetic benefit gained.

The cost of placing the distribution line underground at the Route 22A crossing is approximately \$200,000. The reduction in pole heights that could be achieved if the distribution line at the Route 22A crossing were placed underground range from a 13-foot reduction to a 4.5-foot reduction, involving three poles. Given this information, the Board has determined that placing the distribution line underground at the Route 22A crossing is not necessary, because the cost of this measure is not justified by the aesthetic benefit and also because the pole heights were established by a relocation requested by Vergennes. Accordingly, VELCO's October 1, 2007, design for the Route 22A crossing, which does not place the distribution line underground, is approved.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 10th day of January, 2008.

_____)	
)	PUBLIC SERVICE
)	
<u>s/David C. Coen</u>)	BOARD
)	
)	OF VERMONT
<u>s/John D. Burke</u>)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: January 10, 2008

ATTEST: s/Susan M. Hudson

Clerk of the Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)